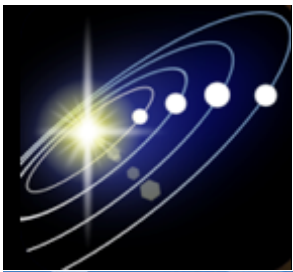


“Teaching Science? There is an App for that!”

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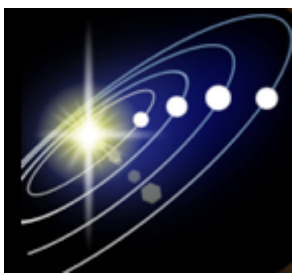
3D Sun



Night Sky

Top 3 iPad Apps for the Universe

Research shows that technology can increase learning through high-interest student engagement. Learning apps can put a laser-like focus on students' academic needs. As it can be difficult to find classroom apps that met my instructional needs, the focus of this app list on our solar system is to help guide your instructional app choices for you and your students.



Solar Walk

3D Sun

"3D-Sun is developed in collaboration with NASA scientists. It will alert you to solar flares and storms, which can disrupt communications on earth and trigger spectacular northern lights.

Activating the push feature provides instant notification of major solar activity. By clicking on the app will give you detailed information, as well as a current picture of the surface of the sun provided by the NASA satellites. You can rotate the view of the sun with your fingers, and pinch in and out to zoom. The 2 satellites don't have a 360-degree view, so there will be a dark sliver where the cameras can't see. Using this app is a lot safer than trying to see these phenomena with the naked eye or even using some of the not-so-safe solar filters that are around.

In addition to the 'live' view of the sun, you can view recent pictures of the sun in different bands of the spectrum, and you'll get a look at the rather fascinating magnetic field lines that are above the surface of our friendly orb.

The app also features a collection of stills and movies showing solar events and events triggered by the sun."

<http://www.tuaw.com/2010/02/18/keep-your-eyes-on-the-sun-safely-with-free-3d-sun-app/>

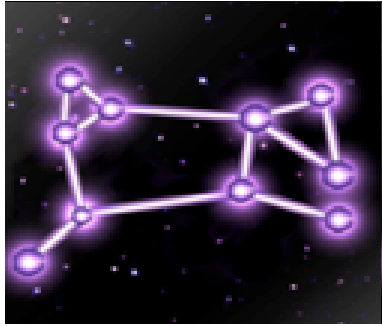
Overall this app is easy to use once you start looking through it. It is a little over whelming but once you start looking through it is very easy to use.

Ways to Use in the classroom:

- 1) Chart the daily paths of the sun to learn more about orbit, etc.
- 2) Use the news feed (probably my favorite feature) to follow articles about the sun and any news dealing with it.
- 3) Use the notification feature to get alerts on major sun happenings like solar flares, auroras, and geomagnetic storm.

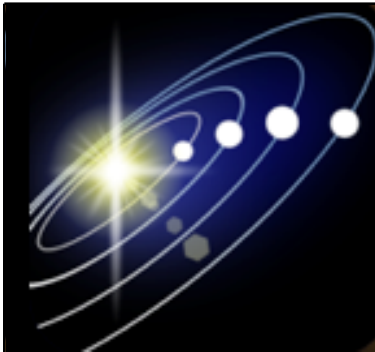
*All images from www.google.com/images





Night Sky

A complete planetarium in your hand. Kids can learn to identify constellations and planets by comparing the stars in the sky to what's shown on screen with The Night Sky. This application is excellent for getting students focused on astronomy. Kids can also learn to identify satellites and track their movement to get a sense of how fast the Earth spins. While there are several apps that discuss constellations, this one shows kids where they are. Depending how you use this app, it can incorporate many of the key K-5 Common Core State Standards. The Night Sky takes a complex science and makes it easy to comprehend.



Solar Walk

This application is a great way to have hands on interactive technology for students to use while studying the universe. It can be used to incorporate several of the Common Core State Standards at different academic levels.

This interactive model of our solar system and the milky way galaxy is packed with information. It allows users to manipulate their way around the universe with a touch. You can select the date in which you want to view, watch movies that explain the earth's phenomena. There is a wealth of information on every planet and even some of the moons. This application has a 3D viewing option, in order for it to actually be viewed in 3D you will need a pair of cyan-red glasses. It does include Pluto even though it is not considered a planet anymore.

This application could be used as a way for students to explore deep space without having to stay out late at an observatory or go on a field trip to a planetarium. Students could use it to research a specific date, or event in history in space. Students can learn about the internal structure of different planets.

We hope that you have learned how you can make use of the new technology of IPad's and the useful applications we have found for you on the universe. These can make learning about the solar system much more interesting and fun for your students. They will help you incorporate the fact that students learn by doing more that just listening to lectures.